

Armchair Travel

Feeling a little cooped up? Here is some armchair travel to inspire your imagination.

Starting a New Phase in Life:

[Under the Tuscan Sun](#) by Frances Mayes

A look at life in Italy as author Frances Mayes sets about to restore a villa in the Tuscan countryside. Read the book, watch the movie!

[A Year in Provence](#) by Peter Mayle

A witty and charming account of Mayle's move from England to an old farmhouse in Provence, France.

[My Life in France](#) by Julia Child

The story of Child's years in France where she learned the art of French cooking.

[The Foremost Good Fortune](#) by Susan Conley

Maine author Conley moved to China with her husband and sons only to discover she had breast cancer. A story of grief, family, and hope.

Searching for Life's Answers:

[Wild: From Lost to Found on the Pacific Crest Trail](#) by Cheryl Strayed

Reeling from loss, author Cheryl Strayed hikes the Pacific Crest Trail alone in search of a way to heal.

[The Oregon Trail: A New American Journey](#) by Rinker Buck

Brothers Rinker and Nick Buck tackle the Oregon Trail in a covered wagon with a team of mules.

[Eat, Pray, Love](#) by Elizabeth Gilbert

Gilbert's journey from Rome to India to Bali in an effort to find herself after her divorce.

A Little of This and a Little of That:

[The Road to Little Dribbling](#) and [Notes from a Small Island](#) by Bill Bryson

Always entertaining author Bryson's adventures in Britain.

[The Year of the Goat: 40,000 Miles and the Quest for the Perfect Cheese](#) by Margaret Hathaway

A road trip through the US learning about farming practices for raising goats. Hathaway and photographer Karl Schatz are locals.

[Deep South: Four Seasons on Back Roads](#) by Paul Theroux

An examination of the culture of the South.

[Walking the Gobi: A 1600-Mile Trek Across a Desert of Hope and Despair](#) by Helen Thayer

An account of Thayer's lifelong dream of crossing Mongolia's Gobi Desert.

On a Darker Note:

[The Lost City of the Monkey God: A True Story](#) by Douglas Preston

Maybe less about travel and more about myth, Preston examines the stories of explorers' quests to find immense wealth in the Lost City of the Monkey God in Honduras.